

**SYLLABUS**

**ACADEMIC YEAR 1994**

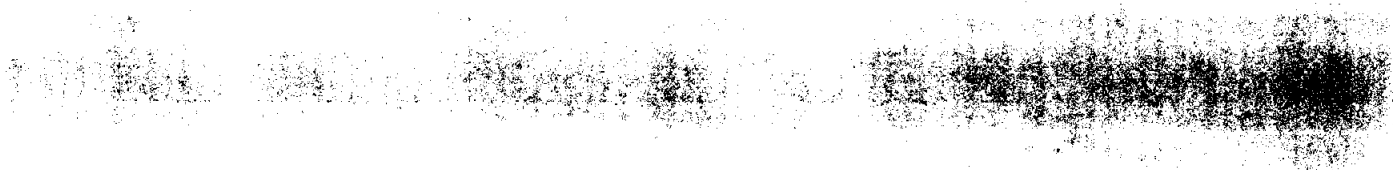
**ADVANCED COURSES PROGRAM**

**TERM III**

**COURSE 298j  
STRATEGIC STAFF RIDE**

**U.S. ARMY WAR COLLEGE, CARLISLE BARRACKS, PA 17013-5050**

**28 MARCH - 3 JUNE 1994**





DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
UNITED STATES ARMY WAR COLLEGE  
CARLISLE BARRACKS, PENNSYLVANIA 17013-5030



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AWCAB

Term III - 28 March 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Syllabus, "Strategic Staff Ride," Advanced Course,  
Academic Year 1994

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FOR THE COMMANDANT:

JAMES C. KING  
Colonel, QM  
Secretary

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U.S. ARMY WAR COLLEGE  
Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania 17013-5050

SYLLABUS  
ADVANCED COURSE

Term III - 28 March 1994

## STRATEGIC STAFF RIDE

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# **STRATEGIC STAFF RIDE**

## **SECTION I**

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

#### **1. OBJECTIVES.**

a. To develop a better understanding of the strategy formulation process based on a study of selected campaigns from the American Civil War.

b. To examine the roles and responsibilities of civil and military authorities in the strategy formulation and implementation process.

c. To examine the processes involved in developing military strategy in support of national policies and objectives.

d. To examine the planning and the conduct of a set of military campaigns by both antagonists, and the political and military results of their efforts.

e. To plan and conduct a staff ride covering selected sites chosen to enhance understanding of strategic concepts and intricacies of the strategy formulation process in order to determine if the staff ride format has application in the study of strategy.

2. SCOPE. This advanced course will assess the feasibility and utility of the staff ride as a vehicle for studying strategy. Students will design, plan, and conduct a strategic-level staff ride covering the 1862 Fredericksburg and the 1863 Chancellor-ville campaigns conducted in the Eastern Theater of War during the American Civil War. Efforts will focus on understanding Union and Confederate States national security policies, changing strategies, and ensuing campaigns designed to achieve strategic ends. Although the focus of the staff ride will be primarily at the strategic level, an understanding and appreciation of operational and tactical events will be essential in order to gain an appreciation of the relationship between strategic decisions and their impact on the shape and outcome of campaigns and battles.

3. PREREQUISITE. NONE.

4. METHODOLOGY. The course will be conducted as a directed study. We will begin with an overview of the background and chronology of the Civil War from its beginning until the onset of the Fredericksburg Campaign. Students will read letters and

official correspondence and message traffic involving the army commanders and key subordinates, extracted from the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion and other sources, selected articles and monographs on subjects related to strategy formulation and conduct of war, in order to gain an understanding of the policies and strategies employed by the belligerents. Study will focus on the military strategies and campaigns developed in support of the national strategies and the battles fought to secure those ends. After having become thoroughly familiar with the strategic and operational settings for the Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville campaigns, students will plan and participate in a staff ride designed to enhance their understanding of the strategy formulation process.

5. COURSE REQUIREMENTS. Each student is expected to:

- a. Complete assigned readings and participate in discussions.
- b. Conduct research using primary and secondary sources provided in selected course readings.
- c. Participate in the planning and conduct of the two-day strategic staff ride.
- d. Prepare and submit a paper (1000 words) which summarizes how the strategic staff ride enhanced understanding of the strategy formulation process and which provides recommendations on the feasibility and advisability of conducting a strategic staff ride for the AY95 Army War College Class.

6. COURSE RELATIONSHIP. This course supports the core curriculum by using historical case studies and visits key locations and events within a theater of war to reinforce lessons taught in Courses 1, 2, 3, and 4.

7. DETAILED PROGRAM.

- a. The planning calendar on page 5 indicates the schedule of planned meetings and activities for Term III.
- b. General instructions and specific meeting objectives follow the planning calendar.

8. FACULTY ORGANIZATION. Faculty organization for the conduct of this course is as follows:

Chairman, Department of National Security and Strategy.....	Dr. Gary Guertner Room: C-210 Phone: 53108
Advanced Course Coordinator.....	LTC Jeffrey McCausland Room: C-218 Phone: 53256
Advanced Course Instructors.....	Dr. Jay Luvaas Room: C-232 Phone: 53207
Advanced Course Instructors.....	COL Len Fullenkamp Room: C-232 Phone: 53307

**PLANNING CALENDAR  
STRATEGIC STAFF RIDE  
ACADEMIC YEAR 1994 (TERM III)**

<b>Tuesday 5 April 1994</b>	<b>Tuesday 12 April 1994</b>	<b>Tuesday 19 April 1994</b>
1630-1730  <u><b>SR-01</b></u>  ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION	  <u><b>SR-02</b></u>  DIRECTED STUDY	1630-1730  <u><b>SR-03</b></u>  ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION OF UNION STRATEGY AND CORRESPONDENCE
<b>Monday 25 April 1994</b>	<b>Thursday 5 May 1994</b>	<b>Friday 13 May 1994</b>
  <u><b>SR-04</b></u>  DIRECTED STUDY	1630-1730  <u><b>SR-05</b></u>  ANALYSIS AND DISCUS- SION OF CONFEDERATE STRATEGY AND CORRE- SPONDENCE	1630-1730  <u><b>SR-06</b></u>  DIRECTED STUDY
<b>Wednesday 18 May 1994</b>	<b>Wednesday 25 May 1994</b>	<b>Thursday 26 May 1994</b>
1630-1730  <u><b>SR-07</b></u>  DESIGN STRATEGIC STAFF RIDE	  <u><b>SR-08</b></u>  STRATEGIC STAFF RIDE	  <u><b>SR-09</b></u>  STRATEGIC STAFF RIDE
<b>Thursday 2 June 1994</b>		
1630-1730  <u><b>SR-10</b></u>  DISCUSSION, ANALYSIS AND COURSE WRAP-UP		

SECTION II  
CLASS DESCRIPTION

1. SR-01: Tuesday, 5 April 1994. Organization and Administration.

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2. SR-02: Tuesday, 12 April 1994. Directed Study.

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3. SR-03: Tuesday, 19 April 1994. Analysis and Discussion of Union Strategy and Correspondence.

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4. SR-04: Monday, 25 April 1994. Directed Study.

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5. SR-05: Thursday, 5 May 1994. Analysis and Discussion of Confederate Strategy and Correspondence.

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6. SR-06: Friday, 13 May 1994. Directed Study.

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7. SR-07: Wednesday, 18 May 1994. Design Strategic Staff Ride.

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8. SR-08: Wednesday, 25 May 1994. Strategic Staff Ride.

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9. SR-09: Thursday, 26 May 1994. Strategic Staff Ride.

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10. SR-10: Thursday, 2 June 1994. Discussion, Analysis, and Course Wrap-up.